

03500.017991



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: )  
YOSHIHIRO ISHIBE )  
: )  
Application No.: 10/809,445 )  
: )  
Filed: March 26, 2004 )  
: )  
For: MULTI-BEAM OPTICAL )  
SCANNING APPARATUS AND :  
IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS )  
USING THE SAME : April 20, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document so listed is enclosed. Copies of U.S. patent documents are not enclosed, pursuant to the Notice published in the Official Gazette dated August 5, 2003.

U.S. Patent 5,859,720  
U.S. Patent 5,995,131  
U.S. Patent 6,067,106  
U.S. Patent 6,133,935  
U.S. Patent 6,256,132  
U.S. Patent 6,317,244  
U.S. Patent 6,362,470  
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0063910  
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0163703

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0001944  
Japan 5-333281  
Japan 9-197308

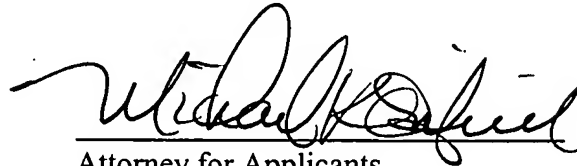
Applicants also respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to co-pending U.S. Application No. 09/774,125 filed January 31, 2001 by Yoshihiro Ishibe (Atty. Docket No. 03500.015080) which has been assigned in common with the present application. A copy of this co-pending application is also enclosed

It is Applicants' belief that Japanese priority applications for the above U.S. application may have been published before the filing date of the subject application, making the Japanese publications themselves available as prior art under at least § 102(a).

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,  
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to  
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

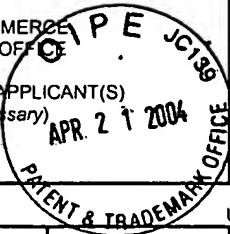
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. Daniel", written over a horizontal line.

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CA\_MAIN 80118 v 1

FORM-PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.017991</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/809,445</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>Yoshihiro Ishibe</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>March 26, 2004</b>		GROUP <b>Unknown</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,859,720	1/12/99	Ishibe	359	196	
		5,995,131	11/30/99	Fujibayashi, et al	347	258	
		6,067,106	5/23/00	Ishibe, et al	347	258	
		6,133,935	10/17/00	Fujibayashi, et al	347	258	
		6,256,132	7/3/01	Ishibe	359	204	
		6,317,244	11/13/01	Ishibe	359	204	
		6,362,470	3/26/02	Yoshida, et al	250	235	
		2002/63910	5/30/02	Ishibe	358	514	
		2002/163703	11/7/02	Ishibe	359	204	
		2003/1944	1/2/03	Yoshida, et al	347	241	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		5-333281	12/17/93	Japan			Abstract
		9-197308	7/31/97	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy, form with next communication to applicant.

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